

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

WGB:ATG

9-4576

June 3, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS  
JACK DEANSON - Victim  
ATTENTION

With reference to the attached letter from the New York Office in the above-entitled case, you are advised that Mr. Brentley telephoned the Laboratory yesterday morning and again at 4:30 P.M. requesting that the examination desired be immediately handled and that he be notified telephonically of the results of the examination. Mr. Brentley stated that the letter had been mailed registered, special delivery, on the night of June 1 and he expected it to arrive in the Laboratory on the morning of June 2. Mr. Blackburn checked periodically with the mail room regarding the letter and had the mail room check with the Post Office but the letter did not arrive in the Bureau until 11 P.M. June 2.

An examination of the postmarks on the cover indicate that it was mailed at New York City at 11:30 P.M. June 1, 1939, at the Church Street Annex. The registry number is 314500. On the reverse side of the cover the registry stamp is dated New York, N. Y., Church Street Annex, June 2, 1939. The cover is postmarked "Washington, D. C., June 2, 1939, 9:30 P.M., Special Delivery" indicating its receipt in Washington at that time.

After receipt of the letter Mr. Blackburn was advised by Supervisor Val Zimmer that the suspect had been released and it would not be necessary to telephone a report to New York on the night of June 2. He further advised this morning that a telegraphic report instead of a telephonic report should be submitted inasmuch as the suspect was released.

It is obvious that the delay caused in receipt of this letter in the Laboratory was due to the fact that the letter was sent by registered mail as it appears to have been held in the New York Post Office from 11:30 P.M., June 1, to some time on June 2 when it was stamped at the registry window.

RECORDED & INDEXED

9-4576-1  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
JUN 8 1939

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

WJH:NB

New York, N.Y.

June 1, 1939

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Attention Technical Laboratory

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS  
JACK DEMPSEY - Victim  
KIDNAPING

Dear Sir:

There are enclosed herewith a letter and envelope addressed to Jack Dempsey, the Victim in this case. The envelope was postmarked May 26, 1939 at 10 a.m. at Station 3, New York, N.Y. The letter reads as follows:

"This is a warning to you  
On June 1st I'm going to be  
at your place and blow up  
your place with dynamite  
I work alone I don't  
trust anyone  
Everyone likes you especially boys - me  
but I don't I'm gonna get you in my  
own way -"

The following is written across the side of the page:

"Is not in my right  
mind I'm gonna get all those  
so-called he-men  
Read the other side"

The following is written on the other side of the page:

"I'm gonna  
dynamite  
these  
sissies"

RECORDED & INDEXED

Clark  
Spencer Tracy

There are also enclosed herewith seventeen pages of handwriting taken from BARNEY SHOOTER alias Black Legion, UNSUB in this case. These specimens were taken from the subject while he was in the custody of the F.B.I.

9-4576-101  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
JUN 3 1939

9-4576-

Director

June 1, 1939

was seated at a regular business desk, and were written by him at a rather fast rate of speed.

There are also enclosed with this letter a set of fingerprints of the Suspect.

The Technical Laboratory is requested to process the original letter for any possible latent fingerprints, although it has been ascertained that the letter has been handled by numerous people.

It is also requested that the Laboratory make a handwriting examination of the letter in question and compare it with the known specimens of the Suspect.

In view of the fact that the Suspect is in protective custody at the New York Office, it is requested that the Bureau advise the New York Office telephonically whether any identification has been effected.

Very truly yours,

WRIGHT BRANTLEY,  
Special Agent in Charge

Encls. 2C

REGISTERED MAIL  
SPECIAL DELIVERY

Enclosure Retained

9-4576-1

COMM-ATG  
9-4576

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TO: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

JUNE 3, 1939

Transmit the following message to:

SAC NEW YORK

RELET FIRST URGENT JACK DEMPSEY VIENNA RECEIVED LABORATORY ELEVEN LAST  
NIGHT TRION KATOL GENE'S BARNEY WHITTENBERG. PAPER CUT FROM LARGER  
SHEET TAKEN FROM GLOVED PAD REMARKS: CONTAINS INK SCRIPT. PAPER  
EDGE MATCH POSSIBLE IF FOUND. EROSION DEVELOP PARTIALLY BRASED AND  
SCRIBLED OVER WRITING BACK KATOL WILL DELAY DEVELOPMENT LAPIP.

HOOVER

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

WESTERN UNION

SENT VIA

155P

Per

JR



JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

VCZ:MFW  
6:40 P.M.

June 1, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

RE: THREATENING LETTER RECEIVED  
BY JACK DEMPSEY

2M  
SAC Brantley called from New York and said that Jack Dempsey had received a letter to the effect that his restaurant was going to be blown up. Mr. Brantley said the letter was referred to the New York office by the West Coast Inspectors. He said the agents were at the restaurant today and picked up a man by the name of Dick Hyland, alias Barney Brothman. Hyland is sixty-three years old, lives at the Capital Hotel in New York; and has been a store keeper on a ship of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey. Mr. Brantley said Hyland is a "screw ball" and was picked up at 5:30 P.M. at Jack Dempsey's Restaurant, at 8th Avenue and 50th Street. SAC Brantley went on to say that he had been in the restaurant earlier in the day and he walked over to Agent [redacted] and said "Are you a G-Man, are you afraid to die?" Brantley said it was not known by anyone in the place that [redacted] was a G-man except by the secretary and the general manager. Hyland had been thrown out of a Jack Dempsey branch restaurant at 1619 Broadway, as he had been loitering around there, Mr. Brantley said. Incidentally the threatening letter was addressed to the 1619 address SAC Brantley advised. Hyland said he was arrested in California and was sentenced to 6 months for drunkenness and also admits an arrest and a probationary sentence of approximately 2 years in California, for contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Mr. Brantley said that Hyland wouldn't admit to anything and that they had him in the office at the present time. He said Hyland was a difficult person to deal with and obviously should be in an institution for the feeble minded.

RECORDED

INDEXED

9-4576-1X

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUN 14 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The New York Police knew about this letter too, Mr. Brantley said, and they were at 1619 Broadway, but knew now Hyland was in our custody. He said they would question Hyland further and if they couldn't get any information they would place him in the House of Detention in New York. Mr. Brantley told me he would send fingerprints of Hyland to the Bureau tonight, and in the meantime would make a search of Hyland's residence for any handwriting specimens they could find.

7:24 P.M.

I called SAC Brantley and told him that you said to keep Hyland all night talking to him and see if some definite information can be obtained. Mr. Brantley said what should be done in case Hyland went crazy, and I told him to have enough men there to take care of him.

Respectfully,

Val C. Zimmer  
Val C. Zimmer

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

102:601

June 2, 1939

Time: 6:20 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TALKER

RE: THREATENING LETTER  
RECEIVED BY JACK CAMPBELL

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. Nathan  
Mr. R. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

SAC Brantley called from New York and advised that Dick Hyland, alias Barney Stettenberg, suspect in this case, has been questioned all night and most of today. Hyland's actions and answers to questions indicate he is insane and he has admitted having been confined to an insane asylum. So far nothing has been developed to connect him with the letter and Mr. Brantley is of the opinion he should be released inasmuch as should it be desirable to later pick him up there would be little difficulty in locating him, he having been arrested fifty to seventy-five times.

I instructed Brantley to hold Hyland until I could discuss the matter with you and call him back.

7:40 p.m.

In accordance with your instructions, I called the New York Office and advised Agent [redacted] that it would be satisfactory to release Hyland. b7c

Respectfully,

Val C. Zimmer  
VAL C. ZIMMER

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

9-4576-2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 6 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Report Recorded 6-12-39 2:00 P.M.

Case: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS  
JACK DEMPSEY - Victim  
KIDNAPING.

Number: 9-4576

9-4576-

Specimens: Requested that the questioned material in instant case,  
be compared with the questioned material in the case  
entitled: [REDACTED] - Fugitive; First  
National Bank of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois. BANK ROBBERY  
NATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT ACT. No. File #61-1511.  
Kansas City Office of Origin.

b7c

Examination requested by: Supervisor Kramer

Date received: Dec. 5-12-39

Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint

Result of examination:

Examination by: [REDACTED]

b7c

EXPERIMENT

*Done for 2 files 6-12*

*7 minutes developed in 1911 cases.*

*No latent comparisons possible.*

*Dictated 6-13-39 - paragraph in Lab report*

*Dgi*

CC-159

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TO: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

June 3, 1933

Transmit the following message to: SAC, New York

URGENT JACK HENRY VIKER KILBY JUNE THREE THREE FRAGMENTARY  
LATENT FINGERPRINTS DEVELOPED OUTLINE ENVELOPE NOT IDENTIFIED  
FINGERPRINTS IDENTIFICATION, SEVERAL DROPPED FBI NUMBER  
REMOVED KILBY KILBY THREE TWO FIVE

END

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

4-4576-2  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUN 6 1933  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WESTERN UNION

SENT VIA

Per

RECEIVED  
FBI DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
JUN 3 1939

WESTERN UNION

BI 18 5 6-3-39 2-35 PM COVT VIA RCA

D BRANTLEY FBI JUSTICE

507 U S COURTHOUSE FOLEY SQ

NEW YORK N Y

UNSUBS JACK DEMPSEY VIKEX RELET JUNE FIRST THREE FRAGMENTARY  
LATENT FINGERPRINTS DEVELOPED OUTSIDE ENVELOLXXXXXX ENVELOPE NOT  
IDENTIFIED FINGERPRINTS BARNEY WROTTENBERG, PREVIOUS RECORD FBI  
NUMBER ELEVEN NINE NINE THREE TWO FOLLOWS.

HOOVER

BIS 18

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.**

May 31, 1933

SAT:HA

3:10 P. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Assistant SAC Dalton called from New York stating he had received a call a few minutes ago from the Chief Clerk of the Post Office Inspection Department during which he advised they had received a letter brought to them by a representative of Jack Dempsey. The letter contained a threat to blow up Dempsey's place in New York City tomorrow, June 1, with dynamite. There was no demand for money or anything of value contained in the letter and the person who wrote it indicated he was not in his right mind and that he did not like Dempsey, [redacted] and [redacted] when he described as he-men, so he was going to blow them up.

Dalton said he had told the Chief Clerk that we did not have jurisdiction in the matter inasmuch as it did not involve an attempt to extort.

I pointed out to Dalton that there was a statute signed the other day which eliminates the necessity for extortion in threatening letters. I instructed that he notify the New York City Police and try to collaborate with them on the matter. I advised that I would try to keep all publicity out of the papers because it might ruin Dempsey's business. I instructed that he try to obtain the original letter and send it to the Bureau in order that it may be examined in the Laboratory.

Respectfully,

E. L. Tamm

9-4576-4  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUN 3 1933  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
RECEIVED

June 7, 1939

RJUGEM

9-4576 -

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS  
Jack Rosenberg, Victim  
KIDNAPING

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of June 4, 1939, submitting, together with handwriting and paper specimens, two envelopes postmarked "New York, N. Y. 5 May 26, 1939" in New addressed to Victim and accompanying letter indicating "this is a forgery" and the fingerprints of James Wrottenburg, suspect, in connection with the aforesaid case.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Continuing and supplementing the Bureau's letter of June 3, 1939, you are advised that the original envelopes have been examined and three supplementary latent fingerprints were developed on the outside of the envelopes. These have been compared with the fingerprints of James Wrottenburg, but no identification could be effected.

A search of the fingerprints of Wrottenburg against the main fingerprint files of the Bureau's Identification Division has disclosed a very unusual record for this individual, who is #22-115612. Transcripts of this record are enclosed herewith.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures

MAILED

1939

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#28725

1501C

Laboratory Report

Recorded 6-3-39 11:20 A.M.

Case: Unknown Subjects  
Jack Dempsey - Victim  
Extortion

Number: 9-4576-

9-4576-

Specimens:

- Q1 Envelope postmarked New York, N. Y. 5 May 26, 1939 10 AM addressed to victim.
- Q2 Accompanying letter beginning "This is a warning..."
- X1 Sample handwriting of Harvey Weinstein consisting of sixteen sheets of paper. (Letter mentions seventeen)
- X2 Two white envelopes without postmark or stamp containing miscellaneous writings and one piece of paper containing advertisement of Kling's Beer and writing on the reverse side; (these specimens not mentioned in cover letter)

Examination requested by: New York

Date received: *Letter to Commissioner*  
Received 6-2-39 10

Examination requested: Document-Fingerprint

Result of examination:

Examination by:

LAYNE

WILLIAM

3 fragmentary latent fpts. developed outside Q1.

Not identified fpts. above suspect.

Division record - FBI - 117934

Filed 6-3

To typing for transcript 6-5

Examination 6-5-39

Done

Unid  
6/2/39  
J. H. [initials]

L-1

9-4576-5

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☐ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☐ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to the subject of your request or the subject of your request is listed in the title only.

- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

Page(s) withheld inasmuch as a final release determination has not been made. You will be advised as to the disposition at a later date.

2

Pages were not considered for release as they are duplicative of

9-4576-1

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

9-4576-5XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X Deleted Page(s) X  
X No Duplication Fee X  
X for this page X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

000000

JUNE 25, 1939

9-4576

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

Re: Unknown Subjects;  
Jack Thompson - Victim;  
ALPHABET

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith the laboratory report covering the examination of specimens submitted by your office in connection with the above entitled matter and received in the Bureau June 2, 1939.

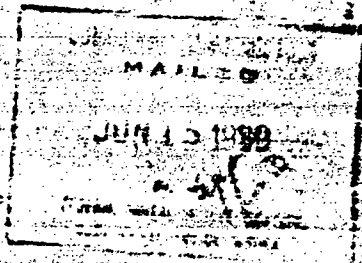
Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

RECORDED

INDEXED

Enclosure:



9-4576-6

JUN 20 1939

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PERS

June 15, 1939

Laboratory ReportCase: Unknown Subject  
Jack Dempsey - Fighting  
Fighting Manager

Number: 9-4576

Specimens: Two specimens of handwriting

Examination requested by: New York

Date received: June 2, 1939

Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint

Result of examination:

Examination by: [redacted] 176

This is in continuation of telegraphic summary of June 1, 1939.

The conclusion was reached that James Braddock, XI and XII, did not write the writing on specimens Q1 and Q2. The known writing of the suspect is readily scribbled and written under conditions not readily comparable with the questioned, which is steady and deliberately formed obviously for the purpose of disguising the writing of the extortionist. This shows an ability to handle delicately small shapes and a sense of proportion. This with the writing of the letter may be an indication of a feminine type of mind.

Specimen Q1 is a Post Office Department envelope containing a printed business Franklin stamp. It has the postmark "NY" dated with an "NY" with the year "1939" which is the date of the contract between the manufacturer of the specimen and the Post Office Department. The specimen is of the size 3 1/2 by 5 1/2 inches. It is torn in two in the middle of the flap but the two halves together weigh 3.64 grams.

Specimen Q2, the letter, measures 2.35 by 4.34 by .011 inches and weighs 2.1 grams. The paper was cut to the present size on the long side. The short side contains portions of glue indicating that the paper was closed in a fold. The original size of course must have been at least double the present dimensions. Along the end are the upper portions of two large of letters written in ink on the original paper before the cut was made. It is suggested therefore that the other half of this paper if found will contain script writing. Inasmuch as the cut side is also somewhat irregular it may be possible to match the two sides if the other half from which it was cut is found. There is no watermark and the paper is a white tint. Just above the cut side which has been described, handwritten "2000" is visible.